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Les poètes du terroir du XV^e siècle au XX^e siècle.

Textes choisis, accompagnés de Notices biographiques et d'une Bibliographie et de cartes des anciens pays de France, par AD. VAN BEVER. (Alsace, Anjou, Auvergne, Béarn, Berry, Bourbonnais, Bourgogne, Bretagne, Champagne.) Tome I. Paris, Delagrave, 1909. xv + 575 pp.

The interest in the literatures of the Provinces of France is growing every day, and the prediction that it would prove a mere fad is farther than ever from being realized. Thus the publication of this admirable volume—which awaits a brother shortly—is very timely. To all those who are familiar with Vicaire's *Études sur la poésie populaire*, the work of Van Bever will be heartily welcome. It is indeed the whole of France, not only the somewhat cosmopolitan Paris which sings all through this rich collection, the gay, sunny France; the variety of the French wit comes out in a really striking fashion; Anjou does not laugh like Béarn, Champagne is not merry like Brittany, Burgundy is enjoying life differently from Alsace. One of the most interesting features are the *Chansons populaires*, generally anonymous, of those various countries. In many cases when the "patois" offers difficulties, a translation is added to the original text. For our own taste, and from the point of view of the scholar, we should have preferred if more space had been allowed to those popular songs, while some of the poets might have been left out without much impairing the value of the book; for instance, such authors who after having gone to Paris lost the characteristic turn of mind of the "terroir" might have been merely mentioned in the introductory chapters. Moreover, such poets like Chateaubriand, Lamartine, Banville, and so forth, are well enough known without being represented there, all the more so as the space allotted to each one of them could not possibly do justice to their importance.

The biographical and bibliographical notes are as generous as they are concise, both for the groups of poets and for the individual men; they will prove extremely valuable for students of French poetry. The name of the editor is a

guarantee by itself of the excellence of the work. Van Bever is one of the greatest "Fureteurs de bibliothèques" in Paris; he is one of the editors of the *Poètes d'aujourd'hui*, that indispensable tool for any student of contemporary poetry in France; and he has now under way a most interesting edition of Guill. Colletet's *Vie des poètes français*, from the unique ms. preserved in the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, and which will be published by H. Champion.¹

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CARLSON, J. S.: *Swedish Grammar and Reader*. The H. W. Wilson Company, Minneapolis. 1907. Pp. 277.

Carlson's *Grammar*, based, as the author informs us in his Preface, on Sundén's *Svensk Språklära*, is intended "as a practical text-book for the school-room and home." In eighty-six pages the principles of Swedish grammar are presented and in twenty more a survey of the syntax. Pages 107-126 contain Exercises 1) illustrating the various parts of the sentence and grammatical forms in general and, 2) exemplifying the spelling of Swedish, especially the various ways in which the *j*-, *v*-, *sje*-, *tje*-, and *äng*-sounds are indicated in writing. The remainder, or a little over one-half of the book, is given to the selections for reading, and the vocabulary to these (pages 227-273). The latter seems to have been carefully prepared; I have found few omissions either of words used in the texts or of meanings in which these are used. There is, however, a considerable sprinkling of misprints, some of which will be confusing enough to the beginner, as p. 264, *ställe*, n. 5; should be n. 4 (neuter, class 4), and p. 253, *minne*, n. 3, which also should be n. 4.¹ I believe, too, that it would have been better in such a grammar if each separate word had been set apart as are the primary stems, and not to embody derivatives and com-

¹ For a more complete description of this forthcoming Colletet and the conditions for subscription, see my note in *Library Journal*, March, 1909, pp. 140-1.

¹ Misprints are unfortunately rather numerous in the *Grammar*.